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A NEW LIZARD OF THE GENUS *SCELOPORUS* FROM SOUTHERN MEXICO

BY HOBART M. SMITH

An examination of the *Sceloporus* material in The American Museum of Natural History, preparatory to a proposed study of the entire genus, has revealed four specimens[1] of an undescribed species, which may be known as *Sceloporus pictus*, new species.

Sceloporus pictus, new species

HOLOTYPE.—A. M. N. H. No. 18744, male, collected near Santa Catarina, Puebla, on July 27, 1920, by Paul D. R. Rüthling.

PARATYPES.—A. M. N. H. No. 18745, 18748–9, collected with the type.

DIAGNOSIS.—A *Sceloporus* of small size (maximum snout-vent measurement approximately 55 mm.); dorsal scales 45 to 56 from occiput to base of tail; lateral scales in oblique rows converging dorsally; scales around middle of body 47 to 52; nasal separated from rostral; one or two canthals; auricular lobules three to five, the upper lobule usually the shortest; femoral pores 15 to 18 on each side, the two series separated medially; caudal scales about twice as large as median dorsal scales on body; subcaudals keeled except near base of tail, more strongly keeled in females than in males; preanal scales smooth in females; ventral abdominal scales about half as large as median dorsal scales; dorsal scales on tibia subequal in size to median dorsal scales on body. General dorsal color gray-olive or brown-olive; a broken clove-brown band on each side of the body, bordered above and below by a narrow light line; limbs narrowly banded; a dark spot in front of shoulder; males with dark blue areas on sides of belly, black-bordered medially.

DESCRIPTION OF HOLOTYPE.—Head scales smooth, weakly pitted; interparietal large, longer than broad, broader posteriorly than anteriorly, its posterior edge rounded; a single parietal on each side, one-fourth or one-fifth size of interparietal; a moderately large scale posterior to parietal which might be considered a secondary parietal, but which appears to be two nuchal scales fused together; a pair of very small, rectangular frontoparietals, separated medially by broad contact of the frontal and interparietal; frontal transversely divided, the posterior section two-thirds as large as anterior section; prefrontals moderate in size, separated medially by contact of frontal and median frontonasal; latter scale somewhat larger than either lateral frontonasal; a pair of narrow scales in front of median frontonasals, preceded by another similar pair of scales; five enlarged supraoculars on each side, the median scale divided on one side; two anterior supraoculars abnormally in

[1] I wish to express my appreciation to Dr. G. K. Noble for his kind permission to examine and describe these specimens, and to Mr. C. F. Kauffeld for numerous courtesies facilitating the study of these and other specimens.

contact with median head scales on each side; other supraoculars separated from median head scales by a row of small scales; one complete and another incomplete row of scales separating supraoculars from superciliaries; six superciliaries on each side, normal; one canthal on each side; subnasal present, larger than loreal; preocular not divided; subocular long, single, followed posteriorly around margin of orbit by two keeled postoculars; two incomplete rows of lorilabials, reduced to one row below subocular; one row of lorilabials continuous around end of snout; three and one-half or four supralabials and four infralabials to a point below middle of eye.

Mental pentagonal, with a labial border about half that of rostral; outer row of labiomentals separated from mental by narrow contact of first postmental and first infralabial; three pairs of well-differentiated postmentals, followed by several scales not well differentiated from adjoining gular scales; first pair of postmentals in contact medially; most of gular scales with a single apical notch; gular scales all nearly equal in size, somewhat smaller than scales on breast, smallest below ear and between postmentals.

Auricular lobules three–four, the upper scale on one side considerably larger than the others (apparently injured early in life on other side); about six scales between auricular lobules and postoculars; temporal scales keeled, immucronate, larger than scales between ear and lateral nuchal fold, smaller than largest auricular lobule; scales between ear and lateral nuchal fold keeled, mucronate; a series of keeled, mucronate scales passing from near upper edge of nuchal fold to below middle of ear.

Dorsal scales not reduced in size on nape, weakly keeled, weakly mucronate, their free edges nearly straight, not rounded; lateral scales about one-third smaller than dorsals, not abruptly differentiated from them, more strongly keeled and mucronate than dorsals; all ventral scales except some on midventral line with a single apical notch; scales in axilla and groin imbricated, notched; scales on chest slightly larger than midventral scales; preanal scales somewhat smaller than lateral abdominal scales, subequal in size to smallest midventral scales; dorsal scales on rump somewhat reduced; dorsal caudal scales at least twice as large as scales on rump.

Dorsal scales of upper foreleg keeled, mucronate, subequal in size to dorsal scales on body, slightly larger than largest dorsals on lower foreleg; scales on ventral surface of upper foreleg very small, notched, smooth, those of lower foreleg somewhat larger, weakly keeled, weakly mucronate; lamellar formula for fingers 8–13–18–18–12 (8–12–17–17–11).

Dorsal scales of shank subequal in size to median dorsals on body, dorsal scales of thigh slightly smaller; scales on anterodorsal surface of shank near tibio-metatarsal joint greatly reduced in size; ventral scales of shank notched, smooth, smaller than dorsal scales of same member; scales on anterior surface of thigh smooth, notched, somewhat smaller than dorsal scales of same member, rather abruptly decreasing in size on ventral surface near series of femoral pores; scales preceding femoral pore series subequal in size to preanal scales; median scales on posterior surface of thigh keeled, mucronate, subequal in size to scales in preanal region, decreasing in size toward series of femoral pores; no postfemoral dermal pocket; enlarged postanals present, broader than long, separated narrowly by two small scales; lamellar formula for toes 8–13–18–19–14 (8–11–16–20–14).

Color.—Dorsal surface olive-gray or brown-gray; a narrow light line from upper posterior margin of orbit along sides of body to rump, its medial edge not

well defined, the lateral edge distinct; area between these lines without marks; below the lateral light line is a broad, broken, clove-brown band, bordered below by a narrow light band from axilla to groin; below this are irregular, scattered spots of clove-brown, absent toward ventral surface; a narrow white line through ear near upper edge, from upper labial region to upper margin of insertion of foreleg, bordered below on neck by a broad clove-brown band passing through lateral nuchal fold and becoming intense black on shoulder; limbs with narrow, clove-brown bands; posterior surface of thigh irregularly reticulated with clove-brown.

Males with throat white, reticulated or with broad, convergent lines of pale blue; chest, middle of belly and ventral surfaces of limbs whitish, with a bluish suffusion; sides of abdomen cyanine blue, bordered medially by a narrow line of black; groin black; base of tail and a narrow line down the middle of the ventral surface of the tail, whitish, usually with a bluish suffusion.

Females apparently uniform white or cream below. The throat may be reticulated with pale blue.

VARIATION.—The three paratypes show the following variation in scalation of the head. Frontoparietals divided in none; frontal touches interparietal in all; frontal normally divided in all; one complete and another incomplete row of scales between supraoculars and superciliaries; from one to five of the supraoculars may be divided, the outer sections always smaller than the inner; supraoculars separated from median head scales; prefrontals in contact medially in two, and separated medially by an azygous scale in one; nasal separated from rostral in all; canthals 2–2 in one, 1–1 in two; lorilabials in two incomplete rows, reduced to one row below subocular; outer row of labiomentals separated from mental; inner row of labiomentals terminating anteriorly between the anterior part of the third infralabial and the posterior part of the second; scales of anterior pair of postmentals in contact medially; auricular lobules three to five, the upper largest in all.

MEASUREMENTS (IN MM.) AND SCALE COUNTS OF *Sceloporus pictus*

A. M. N. H. Nos.	18745	18748	18744	18749
Snout to vent	47.5	52.0	52.7	54.0
Tail	...	71.0	...	...
Snout to occiput	9.5	9.5	10.8	...
Snout to ear	11.4	11.2	12.8	13.0
Hind leg	32.6	32.7	...	34.9
Tibia	8.9	10.0	10.0	10.0
4th toe	13.1	13.4	13.3	13.7
5th toe	5.7	6.0	6.3	6.3
Lamellae 4th toe	21–21	21–21	19–20	19–20
Femoral pores	18–18	?–?	15–16	17–18
Dorsals	50	56	52	50
Ventrals	53	56	57	53
Scales around body	47	51	52	51
Scales to head length	9.7	9.6	12.0	...
Ratio hind leg to snout-vent	68.6	62.8	...	64.6
Ratio 4th toe to snout-vent	27.5	25.7	25.2	25.3
Sex	♀	♀	♂	♂

The scales on the nape of the neck are reduced in size in one specimen; the subcaudal scales are strongly keeled in the females except immediately behind the anus; other body and limb scales are approximately as in the type.

RELATIONSHIPS.—The only species of *Sceloporus* to which *pictus* is closely related is *megalepidurus* Smith, from which it differs by possessing fewer scales from occiput to base of tail (45 to 56 *pictus*, 56 to 61 in *megalepidurus*); femoral pores average more numerous (15 to 18 in *pictus*, 15 to 17 in *megalepidurus*); scales between series of femoral pores average fewer (three or four in *pictus*, four to seven in *megalepidurus*); basal subcaudals more strongly keeled (strongly keeled in females of *pictus*, smooth except near distal end of tail in *megalepidurus*); dorsal caudal scales proportionately larger; dorsal scales of shank smaller (subequal in size to median dorsal scales in *pictus*, larger in *megalepidurus*); no markings on the back (a double series of dark spots down back in *megalepidurus*); males with distinct blue areas on sides of belly (uniformly whitish or with a general suffusion of pale blue in *megalepidurus*).